



HAWAII KAI NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 1

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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2006 HAHAIONE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Lester Muraoka called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lester Muraoka, Tony Paresa, Bob Clark, Marian Grey, Richard Halverson (7:04 p.m.), Mary Houghton, Donald Huff, Greg Knudsen (7:04 p.m.) and John Steinmiller (7:06 p.m.).

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dolores Elms-Beattie, Jeanette Hanson (excused), Wayne Levy (excused), David Livingston, Wade Sasaki and Jim Sharp (excused).

GUESTS: Ted Liu, Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (Governor Linda Lingle's representative); Senator Sam Slom, William Shapiro (Senator Fred Hemmings' Office staff), Representative "Bud" Stonebraker, Laura Thielen, Director, (State) Office of Planning; Hal Barnes, Special Assistant to the Mayor (Mayor Mufi Hannemann's representative); Councilmember Charles Djou, Francisco Figueiredo and Nolan Kido (Councilmember Djou's Office); Capt. Eric Scharff (Honolulu Fire Department), Sgt. Maurice Asato and Officer C. Enola (Honolulu Police Department); Lorna Heller (Board of Water Supply), Donna White (Complex Supervisor, Koko Head District Park, Department of Parks and Recreation), Michelle Muraoka (Real property Assessment Division, City and County of Honolulu), Maureen Muraoka, Shelly Harris, Elizabeth Reilly, Gayle G. Carr, Steven Geshell and Tai Hong (Livable Hawaii Kai Hui); Roberta Choy (William Charles Lunalilo Trust/King Lunalilo Adult Care Center), W. Giswell, Andy Constantaras, Natalie Iwasa, William E. Allen, Ivonne Cardenas (Makakilo.com); and K. Russell Ho (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 31, 2006 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: The following clarification was made to the January 31, 2006 regular meeting minutes.

Page 8, under Senator Fred Hemmings' report, add, "Board member Greg Knudsen mentioned that Senator Hemmings may have said \$7,000 for the average yearly tuition for private schools, but used \$6,000 in his written report. Board member Knudsen believes that both figures are incorrect."

The minutes of the January 31, 2006 were approved as corrected.

TREASURER'S REPORT- Chair Muraoka announced that Treasurer Jeanette Hanson was ill. No report.

SECRETARY'S REPORT- No report.

STATUS REPORTS:

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD)- Capt. Eric Scharff (Hawaii Kai Station) distributed the monthly report and highlighted the following:

1. Last month there were 105 incidences, of which, 85 were medical emergencies.
2. Fire Safety Tip: Change the battery on your smoke detector yearly, like on an anniversary or birthday. Test the battery monthly. As the battery gets low, there will be an annoying "chirping" sound. If you place your smoke detector on the wall, place it four (4) to twelve (12) inches from the ceiling. There is a buffer area where the smoke does not reach.

Fire Safety Tip (continued from the written report): Every home should have a WORKING smoke detector installed near each sleeping area and on every level. Since cooking vapors and steam can set off a smoke detector, the detector should be located away from the kitchen or bathroom. Wall-mounted detectors should be positioned four (4) to twelve (12) inches below the ceiling and away from air vents.

The following results are from a survey conducted of 80,000 elementary school students in which almost 48,000 responded: Eighty-seven (87) percent of the homes had smoke detectors and two (2) percent were not certain whether one existed. Of the eighty-seven (87) percent, sixty-seven (67) percent of the families tested their detector that month and only seventy-one (71) percent of the smoke detectors were operational. This survey enforced our belief that, "Every home should have a WORKING smoke detector installed near each sleeping area and on every level."

Comments followed.

Board member Bob Clark requested the number of emergency service calls and the percentage of total calls for the elderly housing on Kawaihae Street for December 2005 and January 2006 next time. Capt. Scharff would follow up.

There were no further questions.

Chair Muraoka thanked Capt. Scharff.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD)- Sgt. Maurice Asato handed out a written report for District 7, January 2006, which included a map of the beats: For Beat 774, there were 4 burglaries (+1 from December 2005), 7 thefts (+5 from December 2005) and 4 unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMV) (-2 from December 2005). For Beat 776, there was 1 burglary (-1 from December 2005), 2 thefts (-2 from December 2005) and 11 unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMV) (+8 from December 2005). For Beat 778, there was 1 burglary (+1 from December 2005), 2 thefts (+1 from December 2005) and 3 unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMV) (+3 from December 2005). For Beat 780, there were 0 burglaries (same as December 2005), 1 theft (+1 from December 2005) and 7 unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMV) (+6 from December 2005). For Beat 782, there was 1 burglary (+1 from December 2005), 1 theft (-3 from December 2005) and 2 unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMV) (same as December 2005). For Beat 784, there were 0 burglaries (same as December 2005), 0 thefts (same as from December 2005) and 11 unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMV) same as December 2005). There was also a report from the Narcotics/Vice Division and a Burglary Prevention Checklist.

Sgt. Maurice Asato highlighted the following:

1. He had some good news and bad news. Burglaries were down, but car "break-ins" were up dramatically. The majority of these were because of unlocked doors. Another reason was that tourists go to the lookout and leave their bags and wallets in plain view in the car. The thief just smashes the window and steals the items.
2. Concerning last meeting's concern about the stabbing at the Hahaione Neighborhood Park, Sgt. Asato reported that the case is still under investigation, but one adult male was arrested.

Questions, answers and comments followed.

1. Board member Rich Halverson mentioned that he received a call, inquiring if there was an ordinance about unkempt lawns. The caller was concerned about Lunalilo Home Road. Sgt. Asato heard about the Building Department sending homeowners a letter about maintaining the area between the sidewalk and the road and would look up the ordinance.
2. Resident Andy Constantaras, Mariners Ridge, has been reporting about the speeding on Kaluanui Road and the HPD has been ticketing and warning drivers. There were three accidents and he feels that HPD needs regular ticketing and monitoring. Sgt. Asato is aware of the situation and they have periodic checks, manpower permitting. He mentioned the Community Traffic Awareness Partnership (CTAP) was supposed to have a sign-waving campaign, but he hasn't heard anything lately. Chair Muraoka mentioned that Transportation Committee Chair Dolores Elms-Beattie, not here this evening, was working on it.

There were no further questions for Sgt. Asato.

Chair Muraoka thanked Sgt. Asato.

Board of Water Supply (BWS)- Lorna Heller distributed her monthly report and highlighted the following:

1. There was one main break for January 2006. The pipe is 8-inches in diameter and made of ductile iron. It is 15 years old. As the useful lifespan of our current water mains end, BWS is spending millions of dollars to replace them to insure reliable water service and help prevent main breaks. This is just one of the many ways we continue to be the stewards of Oahu's precious water.
2. The Board of Water Supply (BWS) has announced the 2006 Water Conservation Week Poster Contest for all Oahu students in kindergarten through 6th grade. Deadline for poster entries is Thursday, March 9th. This year's theme is: "Each and Every Day I Save Water My Way."

Winners will receive a savings bond along with their inclusion in the 2007 Water Conservation Calendar. The winning poster entries will also be displayed at City Hall to commemorate Water Conservation Week. Complete details can be found on our website: www.boardofwatersupply.com or by calling our Communications Office at 748-5041.

3. March 5-11 is Detect-A-Leak Week on the island of Oahu. BWS is asking everyone to check for leaks at home and work. Promotional flyers and Leak detection dye tablets for toilets will be available at the Board of Water Supply on Beretania Street, various hardware stores, and all satellite city halls. Also, fill out and mail in entry forms on the flyer to qualify for a free water audit.
4. Water Savings Tip- Not turning off the water as you brush your teeth can use as much as four gallons of water each time!

Comments followed.

Last month Board member Houghton thanked the BWS, but no one was here. So, she mentioned again that there was a water main break last November on Hahaione Street and then the road repair wasn't done very well. When she called in January, the repair was done very well. Board member Houghton again thanked the BWS. Heller thanked Board member Houghton.

There were no further questions for Heller.

Chair Muraoka thanked Heller.

Board Announcements-

Private school tuition- Board member Knudsen distributed some figures on "Average Private School Tuition." After the January Board meeting, Senator Hemmings had sent a letter to Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board members repeating his assertion that the average tuition for private school students is \$6,000. On February 26 the *Honolulu Star-Bulletin* ran an article, listing the tuition for eleven (11) of the more popular private schools. Most of them had an average tuition above the \$6,000 mark, but the average was \$11,676. "Tuition" is only a part of "expenditures" and total "costs." Senator Hemmings' data excluded the Kamehameha Schools, which has tuition of only \$2,170. Their website states that in 2000-2001 the parents paid only 6.2 percent of the actual cost, which would be \$35,000. Knudsen estimated a smaller \$20,000. This would make the average tuition for the 12 schools \$13,985.

Board member Huff disagreed with the numbers in Senator Hemmings' letter, because public schools hold fundraisers and Foodland gives computers to the schools. Private schools have carnivals and endowments to help their operational costs.

Vice Chair Paresa mentioned that a few months ago, he requested a "Education for Dummies" workshop where the Board could hear about all these issues. The Board could have a discussion or debate between Robert Witt, Executive Director of the private schools association and Board member Knudsen, public relations person for the Department of Education (DOE). Right now, exchanging numbers, it looks like "comparing apples with oranges."

Chair Muraoka ended discussion on this topic.

Chair Muraoka requested a change in the order of the agenda, as Laura Thielen, Office of Planning as she has another meeting to attend. Hearing no objections, Chair Muraoka changed the order of the agenda.

Request to the State for a review of the classification and districting of all lands in the State – Laura Thielen, Director, Office of Planning, thanked Chair Muraoka for moving her up in the agenda. She showed a State map of the Hawaii Kai area and the City and County of Honolulu zoning map. The State map showed more area zoned urban than the City and County of Honolulu map. A State law in 1985 required the Office of Planning to do a five-year boundary review and boundary amendments to the classifications. They started the boundary review in 1990 and by 1992 they went to the Land Use Commission (LUC) with statewide re-classifications. Since the process was excessively costly and time consuming, they had to reduce the scope of the review. Their staff was reduced from over 60 people to 17 people now and no funds to file a boundary amendment.

They have a bill in the Legislature to reconsider the process in making a boundary review and a boundary amendment. They don't want the State to ignore the county community development plans, which have a lot of public input and community outreach and are adopted by the County Planning Offices and the County Councils. As part of the Governor's housing package, they are proposing a joint County/State Office of Planning boundary review, based upon the county community plans. The Office of Planning would co-ordinate the various State agencies, like the Department of Transportation (DOT), the Department of Education (DOE) and the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), to participate with the county community plans. The boundary review would go before the Land Use Commission and treated as the City Council treats the community plans with a quasi-Legislative public hearing with public testimonies and not as a "contested case." They also proposed a "streamlined" bill that the four county planning offices are in favor. The Legislature is not hearing either bill. If the City Council rezones most of the Kapolei "Second City" area to urban and some Honolulu areas to agriculture, the Kapolei property owners, who are now paying lower taxes for agricultural lands, would feel economic pressure to the sell the land to developers for development. The State would look at a balanced "regional" boundary review and amendment. Instead of making a resolution, requesting the Office of Planning to do a boundary review for Hawaii Kai, Thielen would "welcome" the Board requesting that the Legislature "please hear something" concerning a joint State/County boundary review that is affordable fashion and responsible to environmental and historic laws. Thielen agreed that it has been "far too long" since the last boundary review and the State and Counties should not have different boundaries. Although it is too late to hear their bills, they have language that could be added to other bills and interested legislators to put them forward. She mentioned that it is more of a challenge than she would have expected in getting a hearing.

Chair Muraoka thanked Thielen for her presentation.

Question, answers and comments followed.

1. Vice Chair Paresa thanked Thielen and asked her to give a 30-second summary of the role and responsibilities of the State Office, the role and responsibilities the County Office and if there were any procedure to co-ordinate or collaborate their responsibilities on a periodic basis. Thielen replied that in the early 1960s the State adopted a Land Use Law with a classification system into three "districts"- "urban", "conservation" and everything else was "agricultural." "Rural" was added later. Prior to that, the counties had jurisdiction over land use. About five (5) percent of the State is classified "urban" and one-half (1/2) percent is "rural." The rest is split between "agricultural" and "conservation." This law provided for regular reviews. The State had two boundary reviews under the "quasi-legislative process." Then, the law was changed and they had only one. Once the State classified the land as "urban," the counties have exclusive jurisdiction over land management and could zone the land- "commercial," "industrial," "residential," "mixed use," etc. The State has exclusive jurisdiction over the conservation districts, like Tantalus. You have to go to the Board of Land and Natural Resources to get permission to build a home and to the City and County of Honolulu for the building permits. The agricultural and rural districts are shared jurisdictions. The State law lists the permissible uses for agricultural/rural districts. The counties are responsible for interpreting and enforcing the laws there.

Currently, there is an informal process. The Governor's proposal would be a very good comprehensive planning bill, where the counties would take the lead in land use planning and required co-ordination with

the State agencies. It included a facilitated decision-making process for disagreements. The Land Use Commission would certify the plans and amend the boundaries to meet the county plans. They are trying to get in the Legislature this year and will continue next year to set up a framework for a co-ordinated planning system. When Vice Chair Paresa asked how often do they get together, Thielen responded fairly regularly among the departments. When the Planning Office invites the DOT, DOE and other departments to a meeting, not everyone shows up and they might disagree. Then, the facilitated decision-making process would become important.

2. Board member Houghton what influence does the landowners have in the classification of their land by the State. Thielen responded that originally, when all of the lands were classified, the landowners had little input. They sued and the law was changed to allow the landowners "due process." The pendulum has swung the other way. The public hearings can go for ten days with "expensive attorneys." So, developers, who cater to the high-end housing, drive the only re-classifications. Board member Houghton commented that it seems that the way that the law was written, it favored the landowners, who do not have to listen to public input. Thielen responded that it was an unintended consequence in the change of the process. That's why she supports getting back to the broader-based, pro-active, planning process by the Land Use Commission, which requires a change of State law.
3. Board member Bob Clark mentioned House Bill 2353, concerning this matter. Should the Board send a resolution to all of the legislators? Thielen suggested sending resolution to specific people- The Senate President, the Speaker of the House, and the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Water and Land Committees in both houses. The comprehensive bill may be too large to handle in one year. It would be appropriate for a Neighborhood Board, which works so hard on the development of the community plans, to ask the Legislature for a way to present these plans to the Land Use Commission in an affordable process, so that the counties with the State can make State land reclassifications.
4. Board member Houghton mentioned that she heard in the past, the plans, like the East Honolulu Sustainable Communities Plan (EHSCP) had more "legal impact," but now they are watered-down and have lost their impact. Thielen responded that under the Governor's proposal, once the counties and the State passed the plans and came before the LUC for reclassification, no private applications could come before the LUC, unless the plans were more than five years out-of-date. The counties must keep up their five-year updates. A developer could still apply for a change in the plans at the county level.
5. Chair Muraoka thanked Thielen for sharing the maps and requested color copies of the two maps of Oahu, showing the State classifications of districts and the City and County of Honolulu zoning in the Hawaii Kai area. Thielen would follow up.

When Chair Muraoka asked what was the response to letters from Representative "Bud" Stonebraker and Councilmember Charles Djou that requested to have the five-year boundary review for Hawaii Kai. Thielen replied that she has met with them and plans to meet with Representative Lyla Berg. Her response was the same as given tonight- that she would like to do this, but she needs help to do a "regional" amendment, rather than for one piece of property. As she mentioned earlier, the City must also rezone the Kapolei (the designated urban growth area) to urban. Under the existing system, if the State reclassifies the land, the developer can go in the next day and ask that the land be reclassified back.

Chair Muraoka thanked Thielen for her presentation.

Committee Reports

Parks & Recreation- Committee Chair Mary Houghton reported on the February 10, 2006 Parks and Recreation meeting. The minutes are below-

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
KOKO HEAD DISTRICT PARK COMMUNITY CENTER
FEBRUARY 10, 2006**

CALL TO ORDER: Parks and Recreation Committee Chair Mary Houghton called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Ackerson, Diane Ackerson, Albert Andrews (Kuli'ou'ou-Kalani Iki Neighborhood Board #2), Cristina Andrews, Arrik Black, Kirra Black, Nancy Black, Sherie Black, John Cerovich, Leslie Cerovich, Dean Chu (Neighborhood Commission Office), Elaine Dobashi, Francisco Figueiredo (Councilmember Charles Djou's Office representative), Alan Hong (Director of Hanauma Bay Preservation Park), Mary Houghton (Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board #1), Tim Houghton (Department of Environmental Services), David Kahue (Department of Parks and Recreation), Bert Lum, Joyce Lum, Paul MacKeeby, Christopher Mann, Gary Miyakawa, Maureen Muraoka, Jeanne Nelson, Robert Nelson, Cheryl Pang, Galen Pang, Sid Quintal (Director, Department of Enterprise Services and Mayor Mufi Hannemann's representative), Toni Robinson (Regional Director, Department of Parks and Recreation), Douglas Russell, Kathryn Russell, John Steinmiller (Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board #1), Lauren Susman, Carol Syderhoud, Elizabeth Uhr, David Washino, Kelly Washino, Steve Washino, Donna White (Supervisor, Koko Head District Park, Department of Parks and Recreation), Don Williams, Doug Williams and Jon Young.

Chair Houghton asked each person to introduce himself or herself, starting with the Department of Parks and Recreation personnel, the Mayor's representative, the Honolulu City Council, the Neighborhood Board members, the Champions of the Projects, and the Community at Large.

APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 27, 2005 MINUTES: There were no corrections to the August 27, 2005 minutes.

REVIEW OF KOKO HEAD DISTRICT PARK AND SHOOTING RANGE PROJECTS AND DOG PARK- Mayor's representative Sid Quintal, Department of Parks and Recreation personnel and Francisco Figueiredo, representing City Councilmember Charles Djou, fielded comments and questions. Projects were discussed in order of funding and anticipated completion. All of these projects, except the dog park, originated in the meetings held to create the Koko Head District Park Master Plan. The Master Plan is a long-term plan that outlines the future projects desired by the community.

Goeas Field- Construction on Goeas Field began in 2005. It is in the process of being graded, resurfaced in preparation for irrigation and landscape grass. It will be expanded from a small players field to all sizes of players. The field is being reoriented to give players better playing advantages when the sun is a factor. The field may be completed this summer.

Hanauma Bay Parking Fees- There was a question about using Hanauma Bay parking fees and other money collected at the Hanauma Bay to pay for parks operating costs. The discussion was outside the purview of this meeting but Alan Hong addressed the use of Hanauma Bay fees from any source for other purposes. The Hanauma Bay funds are used to pay off debt service and operating costs at the Bay.

Archery Range at Koko Head District Park Shooting Range- Sid Quintal announced all permits are issued and the contractor should begin work in the next 30 to 60 days. Cost over-runs may require additional funding. One problem needing a permit was the removal of the dirt. It was suggested that the dirt be used at the site to increase the height of the berm as an added safety precaution. The original plans included a storage shed and shelter from the sun. Some of the archers asked to see the plans for the archery range. Some asked to discuss the plans with the City. The archery range will be built from a downsized plan and design. If the archers want modifications, they offered to provide funds. They will look at the possibility of adding restrooms in the future. Committee Chair Houghton offered to explore getting the site plan to the archers via e-mail as soon as possible.

Dog Park at the Park and Ride Facility- Elaine Dobashi briefed the committee using the site drawings of the dog park. The Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 budget includes \$11,000 for planning, design and construction. A volunteer engineering company made the blueprints. Department of Parks and Recreation gave the Hui Ilio Hawaii, the non-profit organization representing the dog park members, the specifications. They gave their plans to Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) who in turn, gave them to Department of Design and Construction (DDC). DDC must approve the plans before the contract can be let to the contractor. They cannot hire the contractor until DDC approves the plans; they must wait. Toni Robinson said DDC is ready to meet with the group. Toni will arrange for the meeting between DPR, DDC and the Hui Ilio Hawaii. They are waiting for the landscape plan from a volunteer architect. Some of the challenges include getting inconsistent guidance worked

out. DPR gives instructions that a topographic survey isn't necessary while DDC wants one. DDC wants different size entryway openings. There are other examples. The group asks for cooperation from DDC to discuss and workout the differences. As an aside, Elaine announced the next Dog Walk is planned for May 7.

Diane Ackerson echoed the hassles experienced by Elaine as typical of the frustrations the community faces when trying to work on projects in the City bureaucracy. Elaine offered their experience as a model for "public partnerships." The community get the projects planned and designed and save the City money. She offers their experience as a model to show others it can work.

Renovation of Existing Recreation Buildings-Toni reminded the committee that the funding for the Recreation Center was allowed to lapse. The 2007 budget will not be approved until May or June. As far as we know, there is no funding for the renovation in the 2007 budget. In the meanwhile, the City is using crews on overtime to address the serious safety problems in the Recreation Center and fix them first. They will fix the most immediate problems. Sid stressed that department heads were mandated to address safety first. New funds are not available. The debt service is already larger than the funds needed to run the fire and police departments. Maureen Muraoka suggested community groups adopt schools and other facilities; could they adopt a park. She also suggested a concession stand as a proven way to raise funds. Another question asked what specific problems needed fixing and the group was reminded the list was in the August 27, 2005 minutes.

Swimming Pool- Kelly Washino reviewed the problems with funding the swimming pool including the cost and the priority given to other neighborhoods. As a group for around six years, the swimming pool is the number one priority of the Hawaii Kai community. As a group the expectation is that we are the next community to get a pool. Unlike other communities, there is no public pool in Hawaii Kai. The Kaiser High School pool depth is dangerous for small children and it is usually unavailable for swimming by the public. Last year the committee suggested that the pool be planned in the long-term budget such that the pool could become a reality by 2010 to 2012. Kelly suggested the City use a "design to build" concept. That model gives a contractor the swimming pool from design through build and by avoiding the complexities of the City process; "design to build" brings a much lower price tag. The committee recommended the City pursues these types of options to lower costs.

The Jogging/Bike Path, the BMX Facility and the Disc Golf Course- As there were no advocates present for the jogging/bike path, the BMX facility and the disc golf course, no discussion occurred. They are projects included in the Koko Head District Park Master Plan and as such it was agreed that they would remain on the list of priority projects.

Final Remarks- Among the final remarks, the question was asked, "What do we want?" First, we recognize the need for the Mayor's support of each project. It is extremely important that the Department of Parks and Recreation embrace our priority projects. Just as important, DPR, Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) and DDC must include these projects in the six-year Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) budget. The role that DDC plays in the budget remains unclear to the committee and it is imperative that the community committee understands the process of the budget. All of the lead champions of these projects identified communication as a very weak link between the Mayor, the Administration's Department Directors, and the committee members. The committee asks that the Hannemann Administration open lines of communication for the committee to attain answers to questions and request the status of projects in a timely manner. The committee seeks an answer to the question, "Who can we go to for answers to our questions?" In summary, is there a mechanism for the committee to participate in the planning, design, construction and budget process?

Several participants brought water, snacks, sandwiches and cookies for the enjoyment of everyone and that was appreciated.

ADJOURNMENT: Committee Chair Houghton adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Submitted by Committee Chair Mary Houghton

Administrative support by K. Russell Ho, Neighborhood Assistant

Committee Chair Houghton wanted to express her appreciation to Mayor's representative Sid Quintal, for representing the Mayor and his honest feedback; Toni Robinson, Alan Hong, Donna White and David Kahue

(Department of Parks and Recreation), for hosting the meeting and provide historical information on projects and funding; Francisco Figueiredo (Councilmember Charles Djou's Office) for presenting the Council's perspective; to Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board No.1 members John Steinmiller and Maureen Muraoka, who represented Chair Lester Muraoka; and Albert Andrews (Kuli'ou'ou-Kalani Iki Neighborhood Board #2).

Committee Chair Houghton also wanted to thank the "Champions" of our projects, the contingent from Hui Ilio Hawaii (the dog park), the contingent from Koko Head Archery Club (the archery range) and the Washinos (the swimming pool). She wanted to thank those who brought the refreshments; Suzanne Roig (*Honolulu Advertiser*) for putting the announcement in the newspaper and the community for responding. There were draft minutes sent out to the Board and to those on the Parks and Recreation Committee's e-mail roster. She wanted to thank Neighborhood Assistant K. Russell Ho for turning the draft minutes into finalized minutes right away, so they are already done.

Projects were discussed in order of funding and anticipated completion. Goeas Field- Construction on Goeas Field began in 2005. It is in the process of being graded, resurfaced in preparation for irrigation and landscape grass. The field may be completed by September instead of December.

Koko Head District Park shooting range- Sid Quintal announced all permits are issued and the contractor should begin work in the next 30 to 60 days. Cost over-runs may require additional funding. One problem needing a permit was the removal of the dirt. It was suggested that the dirt be used at the site to increase the height of the berm as an added safety precaution. Some of the archers reviewed the plans last week and Committee Chair Houghton will review the plans tomorrow and then meet with the archers in the future.

Dog park at the "park and ride"- The committee was briefed using the site drawings of the dog park. A volunteer engineering company made the blueprints. The Department of Design and Construction (DDC) must approve the plans before Hui Ilio Hawaii can "go out to bid" for a contractor. The Department of Parks and Recreation, the DDC and the Hui Ilio Hawaii were supposed to have met yesterday. This is an example of "public-private" partnerships, where the community gets what it wants through private and public funding.

Renovation of existing recreation buildings- Toni Robinson reminded the committee that the funding for the Recreation Center was allowed to lapse. There was no funding for the renovation in the 2007 budget. In the meanwhile, the City is using crews on overtime to address the serious safety problems in the Recreation Center and fix them first. They will fix the most immediate problems. Sid Quintal stressed that department heads were mandated to address safety first.

Swimming pool- Kelly Washino reviewed the problems with funding the swimming pool including the cost and the priority given to other neighborhoods. Last year the committee suggested that the pool be planned in the long-term budget such that the pool could become a reality by 2010 to 2012. Kelly suggested the City use a "design to build" concept. That model gives a contractor the swimming pool from "design to build" and by avoiding the complexities of the City process; "design to build" brings a much lower price tag.

Final remarks- The question was asked, "What do we want?" First, we recognize the need for the Mayor's support of each project. It is extremely important that the Department of Parks and Recreation embrace our priority projects. Just as important, DPR, Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) and DDC must include these projects in the six-year Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) budget. The role that DDC plays in the budget remains unclear to the committee and it is imperative that the community committee understands the process of the budget. All of the lead champions of these projects identified communication as a very weak link between the Mayor, the Administration's Department Directors, and the committee members. The committee asks that the Hannemann Administration open lines of communication for the committee to attain answers to questions and request the status of projects in a timely manner. The committee seeks an answer to the question, "Who can we go to for answers to our questions?" In summary, is there a mechanism for the committee to participate in the planning, design, construction and budget process?

Committee Chair Houghton wanted to publicly recognize two "heroes." One person paints over graffiti in the parks in the Kamiloiki area. He has gone six months without repainting, but now graffiti is coming back. So, he is back out there with a can of paint. There is another person who cleans up Koko Head District Park everyday.

Both wished to remain unanimous. Committee Chair Houghton wanted to thank these two volunteers, the Parks and Recreation staff and everyone who came to the meeting. It was very energized and they got a lot done.

Chair Muraoka thanked Committee Chair Houghton for her report.

Transportation- No report.

Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO)- Committee Chair Donald Huff mentioned that OMPO had a meeting on November 15, 2005 and they had covered the Oahu Regional Transportation Plan (ORTP) for 2030. East Oahu is not "on the drawing board." He had a brochure for the public to review.

Health & Safety- Committee Chair John Steinmiller had no report.

Legislation, Ethics & Policy- No report.

Communications- Committee Chair Rich Halverson had no report.

Planning and Zoning- Committee Chair Robert Clark reported that after hearing Laura Thielen's presentation tonight and using information he had gathered already, he would propose a resolution for the Legislature at next month's meeting.

Education – No report.

Community Relations – No report.

Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Advisory – No report.

Chair's Announcements- Chair Muraoka announced that three Board members had called him and said that they would not be attending tonight's meeting as they were ill or had other conflicts. They were Jeanette Hanson, David Livingston and Jim Sharp.

PUBLIC GENERATED ISSUES: To speed things up, Chair Muraoka reminded speakers to line up and introduce themselves, then share the public issue.

Roberta Choy, Community Programs Co-ordinator for the Lunalilo Homes and King Lunalilo Adult Care Center in Hawaii Kai, next to Kaiser High School, wanted to announce that about a year ago they have started programs open to every ethnicity, not only Hawaiians. These programs are adult day care, respite care and home delivery of meals. Starting in March, they are now open on Saturdays 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., in addition to the regular Monday through Fridays 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. She invited everyone to "Adopt a Kupuna" and volunteer. She passed out brochures and flyers. Her phone number is 395-1000. Her e-mail is- rchoylunalilotrust@yahoo.com.

Chair Muraoka thanked Choy.

ELECTED OFFICIALS' REPORTS:

Mayor Mufi Hannemann's representative- Hal Barnes, Special Assistant to the Mayor would represent Sid Quintal and Mayor Hannemann tonight. He has been going to the Palolo Neighborhood Board and lives in Kuli'ou'ou.

1. In the Mayor's Capital budget, which will start on July 1, 2006, Hawaii Kai residents will get the 96-gallon containers, not the smaller blue bins, for "green waste."
2. Barnes has been a Budget analyst for the City Council and now, the Mayor, for the last eight years. This is the largest Capital budget that he has seen, but only 30 percent is funded with General Obligation bonds, a decrease from 50 percent under the previous Administration. 54 percent of the budget is for wastewater management, which is funded by revenue bonds. The City must take care of the sewers or

face Federal fines. This budget includes 10 percent Federal funding and \$49 million for rapid transit. There is some talk of expanding the rapid transit to Hawaii Kai. Barnes, who rides the bus every day, would welcome a rapid transit system.

3. Mayor Hannemann vetoed the closing of the Waimanalo landfill by 2008. He does not see how to close it, if there is no alternate location. He does not favor shipping our trash to mainland, but to work on getting the permit for a new landfill. If the Mayor's veto is sustained, Barnes assured Hawaii Kai residents that for the next ten years, no one would be calling for the new landfill to be in Koko Head Crater.
4. Barnes mentioned that last month's concerns were not totally received from the departments, but they would be available for the next meeting.

Questions, answers and comments followed.

1. When Board member Houghton asked about the mandatory curbside-recycling bill passed by the City Council, Barnes replied the Mayor has not decided what to do with the bill yet. The Mayor is committed to curbside recycling. There are other factors like the school's recycling and the State "Bottle" law." Board member Houghton commented that the Neighborhood Board strongly supports curbside recycling. Barnes added that the "green waste" recycling and H-Power help. There is some money in the budget for H-Power, but there is some opposition in the City Council to adding a third boiler. Barnes, personally, does not see how we would not have a landfill, due to political changes in Oregon or Washington or other reasons.
2. Vice Chair Tony Paresa would like the City (the Mayor) to prioritize the basic City services and their costs. Then the public can decide what services they want and are willing to pay for them. Barnes agreed and mentioned that the budget is 75 percent "fixed," with salaries, retirement benefits, debt service (\$3 billion debt), deferred maintenance. He found only 2 items as "nice to have."
3. Board member Marian Grey, after hearing the City's woes, felt almost embarrassed to mention that her property taxes have doubled in three years. She asked how much was going into the "Rainy day" fund. Barnes reported about \$20 million, down from \$50 to \$80 million or 8 percent recommended for a good bond rating. Although she thought this was a "nice to have," Barnes said that it is for emergencies like a pandemic or natural disasters. Board member Grey and Chair Muraoka mentioned that the Mayor announced that the banks are setting up loans to help people pay their property taxes.
4. Board member Donald Huff mentioned the recycling place near the "park and ride" in Hawaii Kai and that they would not refund his clearly-marked, "HI-5" plastic bottles. Barnes responded that he, too, had a problem with them and considered filing a complaint.
5. Board member Houghton reminded everyone that Hahaione Elementary School has an on-going bottle collection fundraising program. As the Parks and Recreation Committee Chair, she would like to talk to him about the budget. Hal Barnes is at phone 523-4288.
6. Resident Maureen Muraoka noticed that the "Not in service" buses were traveling along Kalaniana'ole Highway and they were empty. With the high cost of gas, couldn't they have paying customers? Barnes would call Oahu Transportation Services.
7. Resident Natalie Iwasa mentioned that the many schools are losing or closing their bins. She sees the need for more bins, but that is not the final solution. Regarding the full-page ad in the newspaper, she feels that the Mayor missed a great opportunity to educate the public about the proper way to dispose on glass items by wrapping them up securely. Barnes mentioned the "three-day window" on the bulky item pick up and there is money in the budget for more bins.
8. Resident Andy Constantaras, Mariners Ridge, asked if the Mayor considered "privatization" of park maintenance instead of hiring 44 more employees. Barnes mentioned that high school students fixed up the comfort stations on Magic Island and that we are a strong union state. The United Public Workers (UPW) would oppose "privatization." The Mayor is open to public/private partnerships.

When William Shapiro (Senator Fred Hemmings' Office staff) mentioned that people leave their bulky items outside of the "three-day window of opportunity," Barnes replied that it is "illegal dumping" and the Department of Planning and Permitting can issue citations. Board member Houghton added that before having the bulky item pick-up on a regular monthly schedule, there would be illegal dumping all over. Board member Clark mentioned that citing by DPP would probably not work as they would not be able to find the culprits and this is a serious matter to look into. Barnes suggested also working with the City Council and the neighbors.

9. Chair Muraoka requested the Mayor's representative written report, like Sid Quintal has given, be updated and sent to him before the next meeting. He agreed with all the other recycling comments and suggested that money from the "Bottle Bill" could help pay for recycling. Barnes would welcome the money from the State's General Fund.

Chair Muraoka thanked Barnes.

Councilmember Charles Djou- Councilmember Djou distributed his newsletter and highlighted the following:

1. He mentioned that Sid Quintal was at function at the Honolulu Zoo for Violet and Rusti (the Orangutans) and that he knew Hal Barnes when he was with the City Council. Taxes- Yesterday, Mayor Mufi Hannemann presented his budget. Today, the auditor criticized the City's handling of debt service. The Mayor disagrees. Councilmember Djou is concerned about the over 15 percent increase in spending. While he commends the Mayor's focus on core services, he is concerned about the funding with taxes. He is happy that tax increases are not being proposed, but need more tax relief. The homeowner's exemption was increased from \$40,000 to \$80,000. He wants more tax relief.
2. Trash- The Council does do a lot of "trash" talking and also landfills, H-Power, etc. He introduced a bill that mandates to start curbside recycling by January 1, 2007, but the Council moved it back to get the votes to override a potential veto.

Questions, answers and comments followed.

1. Board member Huff asserted that seniors already get a \$120,000 exemption and they got nothing. Councilmember Djou favors cutting the rate, increasing the standard deduction from \$40,000 to \$100,000 and for seniors \$300,000. The Council only agreed to \$120,000 to all seniors, 65 years old and over.
2. Concerning the curbside recycling, Board member Houghton asked who would buy the trucks? Councilmember Djou had other ideas for curbside recycling, including privatization.
3. Vice Chair Paresa asked if the Council could make the Mayor prioritize the services. Councilmember Djou agreed with him and mentioned that he proposed a debt service ceiling of 20 percent of operating budget and a spending ceiling of inflation. These measures were vetoed by the previous Mayor. They were re-introduced and are still in Committee. Councilmember Djou supports and agrees with Mayor Hannemann focusing on core services, but we can't afford 16 percent a year increases in spending.
4. Chair Muraoka commended and thanked Councilmember Djou on his efforts to control the City government spending. The City's budget should be made after we see how much we can afford.

Chair Muraoka thanked Councilmember Djou.

Senator Sam Slom- Senator Slom distributed his newsletter and highlighted the following:

1. The Legislature is approaching the halfway point to May 4 and they have not passed any bill of any value to anyone. But they can pay themselves first with salary increases, more office allowances and more staff.
2. He mentioned that next Tuesday is crossover day, when bills go to the House. There were many bills from last year and many did not get a hearing, but nothing is dead until they turn out the lights on May 4.

3. He got a concern from a resident, which he forwarded to Councilmember Djou. The resident paid for his motor vehicle registration in December and it died in January. There is no way to get a refund
4. They had bills concerning the Couqui frog, protecting opihi, the spiny lobster and shrimp. He supports the Humu' humu'nukunuku apuaa for the Official State Fish. Earlier, it was the State Fish only for five years, but now he wants it permanent.
5. The Governor's Office is taking suggestions for the back of the Hawaiian 25-cent coin. George Washington is on the front.
6. Senator Slom has favored initiative, referendum and term limits for legislators for years. They are all dead for this year.
7. Concerning the General Excise Tax (GET) increase, there is a disagreement on who is to collect the tax. Last year, one of the conditions to allow the bill to become law without the Governor's signature was that the City and County of Honolulu would collect the tax.
8. The "Bottle tax" goes to a special fund. The Governor wants to "raid" the fund of \$1.6 million.
9. Concerning the "Gas Cap," the House Democrats are split. It is not working and increases prices. Senator Menor not hearing the bill.
10. The "Bottle tax" may go up as the 2-litre bottle would be included.
11. The State surplus is about \$600 million.

There were no questions.

Chair Muraoka thanked Senator Slom.

Senator Fred Hemmings- William Shapiro, Senator Hemmings' Office staff, distributed Senator Hemmings' newsletter and highlighted the following:

1. He mentioned that the newsletter had the six bills that are still alive and a State survey.
2. Concerning the State quarters, they are asking people to submit written descriptions, not drawings, for the backside. Different states do it differently. There is a website to visit on the newsletter.
3. Concerning the debate over the figures of the costs public and private schools, he had done some research and came up with some numbers, which he had distributed. He still comes out with the \$6,000 tuition. Chair Muraoka mentioned that this is not a debate. Board member Knudsen mentioned that the words "tuition" is incorrectly listed under "Expenditures." Shapiro mentioned that was the best word he could think of and stands by his numbers.

Questions, answers and comments followed.

1. Board member Halverson asked about the survey and the question "should the Republican Senators get less than as the Democrats for staffing and the office?" He would answer "no."
2. Resident Todd Shelley mentioned that Iolani School just sent a letter that the tuition would be increased \$900 to over \$13,000 and that it covers only two-thirds of the cost. Although he is not speaking for Senator Hemmings, Shapiro believes that not all numbers are "spin," but they are "spinable." There are problems with the numbers, but that's what he came out with.

Chair Muraoka thanked Shapiro.

Representative William “Bud” Stonebraker- Representative Stonebraker distributed his newsletter and highlighted the following:

1. He mentioned that he “home schools” children. He pays for the books, the lunch, their education and for public education. He is waiting for the to bid to go out for Koko Head School, which Board member Knudsen said would be next month.
2. He met with Laura Thielen and discussed about the “contested cases” with the expensive lawyers and seeking Legislative change.
3. Concerning Senate Bill 2246, the “Child Molestation Bill”, mentioned by Attorney General Mark Bennett, will be voted on Tuesday.
4. Representative Stonebraker has some influence over Senate Bill 2260, the “Three strikes” bill
5. He opposes the “Gas Cap” and other House members are agreeing. He mentioned other “odd” bills.
6. He mentioned the Kauai Charter amendment, which put a property tax cap, which was challenged and the Honolulu group, “Let Honolulu Vote,” that has a petition to amend the City Charter to allow the voters to propose legislation concerning taxes.

There were no questions.

Chair Muraoka thanked Representative Stonebraker.

Representative Lyla Berg- No representative was present.

Governor Linda Lingle’s representative- Ted Liu, Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT), substituting for Mark Anderson, his Deputy Director, mentioned that Anderson and his wife are recovering from the birth of his son.

1. The Governor attended the National Governor’s Association Conference, discussing health care costs and National Guard issues. She was one of only five Governors invited to the Pentagon where they had an exercise, where there were infectious diseases from Asia.
2. The Legislative session is half gone. There was not anything for business. The Governor is focusing on public safety, housing and Civil Defense. Other issues include tax relief, “independence from foreign oil” energy policy and the “Gas Cap.” Tourism is “flat,” but tourist spending is “up.” Because of the booming economy and for its fiscal discipline, Hawaii is getting an upgrade in the credit rating.

Comments followed.

1. Vice Chair Paresa asked about the critical comments of the Governor’s recent Philippines trip. Liu mentioned that it was also about last year’s trade missions to China and Korea. He got private donations to fund the trade missions. He had asked the Attorney General and they found no violation of the State’s bidding laws. He thought he found a “win-win” way to get sponsors for the trade missions. Vice Chair Paresa thanked him for his presentation.

Chair Muraoka thanked Governor’s representative Liu and offered his congratulation to Mark Anderson.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was none.

NEW BUSINESS:

Speaker from the Real Property Assessment Division on how they make the evaluation and assessment of the real property tax- Michelle Muraoka explained how they make an assessment, based on cost and market value. The City Council sets the rate. She mentioned how to reduce taxes. The homeowner’s exemption was

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increased from \$40,000 to \$80,000. Seniors get \$120,000. From age 65 to 69, they get more exemptions. If over 75, they could get home exemption, low income and filing every five years. The disability exemption of \$25,000 is for totally disabled veterans. Per Bill 80, starting July 1, 2006, they will forward payments to the Treasury.

There were no questions.

Chair Muraoka thanked Muraoka.

ANNOUNCEMENTS-

1. The next regular Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board No. 1 meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 28, 2006 Hahaione Elementary School Cafeteria, 7:00 p.m.
2. Broadcasts of the Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board No. 1 meetings are on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 9:00 pm on Olelo Channel 54. Please check your local TV listings.

ADJOURNMENT: Hearing no objections, Chair Muraoka adjourned the meeting at 9:18 p.m.

Submitted by K. Russell Ho, Neighborhood Assistant